



RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Municipal Police Training Academy

Community College of Rhode Island — Flanagan Campus

1762 Louisquisset Pike, Lincoln, RI 02865-4585

Telephone: (401) 205-2500 — Fax: (401) 205-2501

Colonel James M. Manni
Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police
Director, Department of Public Safety

Lieutenant Christopher J. Zarrella
Executive Director
Municipal Police Training Academy

Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training

Meeting Minutes

Cranston Police Department-Community Room

November 18, 2021

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Chief Mello called to order the special meeting of the Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training (POST) at 10:00 a.m. on **November 18, 2021**. **A quorum has been met.**

Chief Mello took a roll call. The following POST members were present at the meeting: Chief Mello, Colonel Michael Winkvist, Colonel Clements, Maria Deaton and Shawn Brown. Also present were Lieutenant Christopher Zarrella, Donna Lavalley; Adam Scholes and Paul Dutra.

2. Review and approval of the minutes:

- August 26, 2021 (Quarterly Meeting)
- September 16, 2021 (Special meeting)

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2021 meeting; Colonel Clements seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion passed.

Colonel Clements made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2021 meeting; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion passed.

3. Review of Lateral applications

Chief Mello stated the package for Ryan Turner asking for a lateral transfer from Westerly PD to RI Airport is complete and all requirements have been met, pending a favorable Psychological Exam Report. Chief Ottaviano was present. Maria Deaton made a motion to approve the Lateral for Ryan Turner contingent upon a favorable Psychological Exam Report; Colonel Clements seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion passes.

Chief Mello stated that the package for Robert Storme asking for a lateral transfer from Narragansett PD to Rhode Island College is complete with the exception of the Psychological testing. Chief Mendonca was present. Colonel Clements made a motion to approve the Lateral application of Robert Storme contingent upon a favorable Psychological Exam Report; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion passes.

Chief Mello stated the package requesting a lateral transfer for Paul Saccoccia from Cranston PD to West Warwick PD is complete and all requirements have been met with the exception of the Psychological testing. Chief Lavigne is present. Colonel Clements made a motion to approve the Lateral application for Paul Saccoccia contingent upon a favorable Psychological Exam Report; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Chief Mello stated the package requesting a lateral transfer for Kevin Roca from Rhode Island College Campus Police to Foster PD is complete and all requirements have been met with the exception of the Psychological Testing. Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the Lateral application for Kevin Roca contingent upon a favorable Psychological Exam Report; Maria Deaton seconded the motion, with all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Chief Mello stated the package requesting a lateral transfer for Patricia Black from Providence PD to Rhode Island College Campus Police is complete and all requirements pending her medical reports and Psychological Exam. Maria Deaton made a motion to approve

Chief Mello stated the package requesting a lateral transfer for Aires Medeiros from Coventry PD to Warren PD is complete and all requirements have been met with the exception of the Psychological Testing. Chief Borges is present. Colonel Clements made a motion to approve the Lateral application for Aires Medeiros contingent upon a favorable Psychological Exam Report; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Chief Mello stated the package requesting a lateral transfer for Jason Bolduc from Lincoln PD to RI Airport Corporation is complete and all requirements have been met with the exception of the Psychological Testing. Colonel Winkvist made a motion to approve the Lateral application for Jason Bolduc contingent upon a favorable Psychological Exam Report; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Chief Mello stated the package requesting a lateral transfer for Zachary Capaldo from West Warwick PD to Warwick PD is complete and all requirements have been met with the exception of the medical results. Sergeant Geoffrey Waldman and Officer Smith were present. Maria Deaton made a motion to approve the Lateral application for Zachary Capaldo contingent upon the completion of the medical forms; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Chief Mello stated the package requesting a lateral transfer for Zachary Coyne from Cumberland PD to Warwick PD is complete and all requirements have been met. Colonel Clements made a motion to approve the Lateral application for Zachary Coyne; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Chief Mello stated he has a letter from Chief Razza requesting a Lateral transfer of Anthony St. Laurent from the Connecticut State Police to Johnston PD. Chief Razza explained that he was a Johnston officer for over a year and recently left to go to the Connecticut State Police Academy. He was in the Academy and was required to attain residency by a certain date and was having trouble doing so. He contacted Chief Razza and requested to come back to Johnston PD. He was a solid recruit and officer and had no issues. Chief Mello stated this is not the traditional lateral transfer but commended Chief Razza in doing due diligence by coming before the POST to cover all bases. His suggestion is to talk to his Solicitor or insurer. Adam Scholes added that this should not be considered a lateral transfer. He also suggested that the POST may want to revise the policy. There was some discussion on the Psychological because it has not been done within a year. Adam Scholes doesn't believe you can have an exception to this ruling. Lieutenant Zarrella stated that he

is returning to the same agency that he was psych'd for initially. With that said, Mr. Scholes stated he feels there could be an exception. Mr. Brown said common sense should be to follow the policy which states a psychological exam is required and he feels this is appropriate. Chief Mello stated since the psychological is good for one year, the POST needs to approve his re-activation of de-certification to Johnston PD and do we waive the psychological? Maria Deaton made a motion to re-activate the Certification of Anthony St. Laurent contingent upon a favorable new Psychological Exam Report; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Chief Mello stated the package requesting a lateral transfer for Mark Thurston from Little Compton PD to North Kingstown PD is complete and all requirements have been met with nothing pending. Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the Lateral application for Mark Thurston; Maria Deaton seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Chief Mello stated the package requesting a lateral transfer for Joshua Heywood from Johnston PD to North Kingstown PD is complete with the exception of the Psychological Exam Report. Officer Raymond Ho is in attendance. Colonel Winquist made a motion to approve the Lateral application for Joshua Heywood contingent upon a favorable Psychological Exam Report; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Chief Mello stated the package requesting a lateral transfer for Justin Marrapese from Cumberland PD to North Kingstown PD is complete with the exception of the Psychological Exam Report. Colonel Clements made a motion to approve the Lateral application for Justin Marrapese contingent upon a favorable Psychological Exam Report; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Chief Mello stated the two lateral, Sean Frodyma and Alberto Bucci, to Little Compton PD was tabled from the August meeting. Chief Raynes is present and added that they are just per diem, part time reserve officers; therefore, asking for a waiver of the Psychs. They are currently serving as reserves for other departments as well. Officer Bucci is a retired Portsmouth officer and a reserve officer in Portsmouth and Tiverton. Officer Frodyma is a retired Tiverton officer and is a reserve officer in Tiverton. Chief Mello stated that this was presented as a consequence of the policy. They never left employment of an agency—just went to part time. Adam Scholes stated that the lateral policy does not apply to these two officers. Chief Mello stated since this is not considered a Lateral, the psychological is not required. He agrees with Mr. Scholes that the lateral doesn't apply and there is no need to be here. Chief Raynes withdrew both applications.

4. Discussion regarding a new psychologist for L.E. Testing

Lieutenant Zarrella stated that at the last Training Officer meeting, one big issue that departments are having is with the Psychological scheduling. They are not allowed to make appointments without completion of the backgrounds. He suggests that we begin to pursue aggressively adding a few psychologists. Chief Mello stated that this came up about five years ago where the POST accepted applications from psychologists. He said he spoke with someone from the RI Psychology Professionals looking for guidance. Colonel Clements stated that this is a state-wide issue. He suggests we look for a short list because this is a unique profession. Chief Mello agreed that the list should be short. He suggested that this be put on the January agenda. Chief Wordell said he spoke with a certified psychologist who is an IACP member and she offered to help and will check with her counterparts. He also suggest that the POSY consider on how to conduct the background investigation. Paul Dutra recommended in addition to searching for psychologists, they also add Fitness 4 Duty evaluations incorporated to their duties.

5. Re-Certification of Academy Instructors

Lieutenant Zarrella stated that he has an application for an in-service Master Instructor and didn't know if it belonged before the POST. Chief Mello replied that the POST does not manage the Continuing Education program.

6. Firearms Certifications

- Hopkinton PD
- Jamestown PD
- Johnston PD
- Narragansett PD
- Newport PD
- North Kingstown PD
- Pawtucket PD
- Portsmouth PD
- Tiverton PD
- Westerly PD

Lieutenant Zarrella stated all Firearms Courses were reviewed by our Firearms staff and all were approved. Colonel Winquist made a motion to approve all above Firearms Qual courses with the exception of Jamestown PD; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

Chief Mello has recused himself and handed the meeting over to Colonel Clements. Chief Clements asked for a motion to approve the Jamestown PD Firearms Course. Maria Deaton made a motion to approve the Jamestown Firearms course; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, 4-0, motion carries.

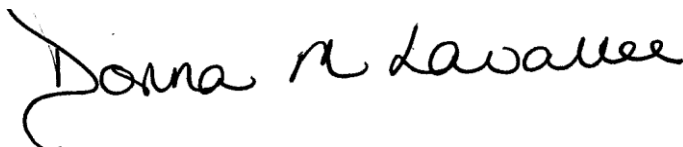
7. Update on Current Class 2021-II

Lieutenant Zarrella stated that this is a big class and all are ready to graduate with the exception of two who are scheduled to take the Use of Force re-test next week and one recruit who needs to re-take the Swim. He reiterated that he indicated on his application that he could swim, as do so many. This is not a learn to swim class-the class teaches rescue techniques and he cautions Chiefs to be diligent about this requirement. Also, we have secured the West Warwick Civic Center for Graduation on December 17th.

Adjournment

Mr. Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 am; Colonel Clements seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna M. Lavalley
Administrative Assistant